



Knightly News

Volume 3

August 2008

Number 2

Calendar of Events

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|---------------|--|
| Aug 12 | Father McGivney Birthday |
| Aug 16 | 1st Degree Exemplification 9:00 AM (St Stephen School) |
| Aug 17 | Raymond James Stadium (Bucs vs Patriots) 8:15 Game; 2:45 Departure |
| Aug 20 | Visit to VA Hospital (Contact Herb Swoope) |
| Aug 22 | Installation of Officers and Family Pot luck Dinner 6:30 PM (Church) |
| Aug 23 | Raymond James Stadium (Bucs vs Jaguars) 7:30 Game; 2:00 Departure |
| Aug 23-24 | Fourth Degree Exemplification; Coral Springs, FL (contact Jerry Westbrook) |
| Aug 23-24 | Soles for Souls Program |
| Sep 3 | Council Business Meeting 8:00 PM (Church MPR) |
| Sep 4 | Ministry leader's Night of Reflection with Father Mike 7:00 PM; (Church) |
| Sep 9 | 1st Degree Exemplification 6:30 PM (Nativity) |
| Sep 12 | Fourth Degree Assembly Meeting 6:30 PM (St. Clement) |
| Sep 13 | Respect Life Clinic Trip 6:00 AM |
| Sep 13 | K of C Soccer Tournament 9:00 AM —12:00 Noon; Handley Field |
| Sep 13 | Raymond James Stadium (Bucs vs Falcons) 4:15 Game; 11:15 Departure |
| Sep 17 | Blue Mass |
| Sep 19 | K of C Family Social 6:30 PM Church |
| Sep 20 | 2nd degree Exemplification 9:00 AM (St Stephen School) |
| Sep 20-21 | Parish Ministry Fair |
| Sep 26 | Banquet of Life 6:00PM—9:00PM (St Lawrence Parish) |
| Sep 27-28 | KofC State Golf Tournament |
| Sep 28 | Raymond James Stadium (Bucs vs Packers) 1:00 Game; 8:00 Departure |
| Oct 1 | Council Business Meeting 8:00 PM (Church MPR) |
| Oct 10 | Fourth Degree Assembly Meeting 6:30 PM |
| Oct 12 | Raymond James Stadium (Bucs vs Panthers) 1:00 Game; 8:00 Departure |
| Oct 18 | 1st Degree Exemplification 9:00 AM (St Stephen School) |
| Oct 19 | Raymond James Stadium (Bucs vs Seahawks) 1:00 Game; 8:00 Departure |
| Oct 22 | Visit to VA Hospital (Contact Herb Swoope) |
| Oct 24 | KofC Casino Knight |



Officers

Grand Knight

Julio Alvarez, Jr

Deputy Grand Knight

Chuck Lusky

Chancellor

Jerry Westbrook

Warden

Greg Celestan

Treasurer

John Sepessy

Advocate

Jim Kelly

Recorder

Paul Crescimone

Inside Guard

John Columbia III

Outside Guard

Dan Laughman

Anthony Giaccone

Trustees

Three Years- *Rick Hughes, PGK*

Two Years—*Nick Turco, PGK*

One Year-*Ed Milius, PGK*

Field Agents

Thomas P. Cummings III

813-625-2444

Email: Thomas.Cummings@kofc.org

Thomas P. Cummings IV

813-857-7345

Email: Tom.Cummings@kofc.org

Directors & Chairs

Membership Director

Darin O'Neal

Program Director

Chuck Lusky

Church Committee

Matt Preszler

Community Committee

Herb Swoope

Council Committee

Scott Sheffield

Family Committee

John Montaldo

Rob Fisher

Youth Committee

Tom Bailey

Degree Team Captain

Rick Hughes

Public Relations

Greg Grambor

RJS Concessions Contact

Julio Alvarez, Jr.

Newsletter Editor

Nick Turco

Resource Links

Council Web Site

www.kofc14084.org

Florida State Council

www.floridastatecouncil.com

Supreme Council:

www.kofc.org

Fr McGivney Guild

www.fathermcgivney.org



Grand Knight's Report

Julio Alvarez, Jr
Julio Alvarez 662-1845
jalvarez8@tampabay.rr.com

To my Brother Knights & your Families;

I want to acknowledge the great work that many of you are continuing to do on behalf of the Council. What a great effort at the Angels Wing of the School. Many brothers (and others) worked very hard to make these much needed classrooms a reality in time for the start of the school year. Additionally, I commend the herculean effort, also at the school, towards the ongoing building of the classroom storage closets. Although many hands were and are involved in these two worthy projects I want to laud the leadership of Brothers Jon DeCort and Phil Primacio, who have provided the energy and direction for these two projects. Thanks Brothers!

I am still working on putting together my vision for the Council both near and long term. To do this, I've met with our Service Program Directors and recently, accompanied by our Worthy Deputy Grand Knight, Chancellor and Benefits Advisor, met with our Pastor and Chaplain, Father Bill, to ensure we are in-synch in our efforts as well as to ensure that we articulated our support for our clergy and parish. The short of it is that our meeting was excellent and we are well on our way to set out our vision and goals after an additional meeting with Program Directors. I will ensure these are disseminated to everyone at our next business meeting.

I can tell you, however, that there are three important pillars to what I intend to achieve in the near term (this year). The first is that we all must realize that **we are an 'Active' Council**. This means that every member is expected to participate in one way or another in the activities of our Council. I realize that time is at a premium for are some of you who because of jobs requirements and other personal commitments. However, remember that you have made a commitment as a Knight to become a better Catholic and a positive example of service to our Parish and Community. I want you to want to be involved in the life of the Council. I want you to share in the spirituality and friendships that come from being a Knight. I want to leverage your unique qualities and capabilities to help make this one of the best Councils in the State of Florida and a force for

good works within our own communities. To do that I need to know what I need to do to help you become involved. **One of our major council requirements is that each member is associated with at least one Service Program Committee.** Our directors need a willing pool of potential volunteers, who they can call upon when they need assistance whether it is manpower, advice, planning expertise, etc. It does not mean you have to do everything or anything – it just provides the Council a more efficient way of gauging interest, and thus potential support, for given projects falling within the purview of specific programs. This also does not mean you cannot be involved in projects across the spectrum of programs in the Council. Please contact our Worthy Deputy Grand Knight, Sir Knight Chuck Lusky or our Membership Director, Sir Knight Darin O'Neal and let one of them know the program area that interests you the most.

The next area is **Family involvement**. I realize that it is a difficult choice to give up time with the family to commit to Council projects and events; therefore, I am going to be taking a hard look at planned events and ensure that there is opportunity to include family participation (which has always been encouraged) as well as looking at the dates and times where we plan events. It is my belief that the more your families know about what we do and your efforts there, the more amenable they will be to both your involvement as well as their potential involvement. Your input is essential to this effort.

Finally, what I believe to be one of our most important areas is **'Spiritual Growth'**. We cannot be effective 'Defenders of the Faith' if we do not know our Faith. An excerpt from some of the literature regarding our purpose as Knights reads...

"The Knights of Columbus are men of faith, guided not only by our belief in God and the Catholic Church, but by our belief in each other, and in ourselves. As Knights of Columbus, we believe that a man is defined by his actions as a follower of God and as a leader in his community."

(continued on next page)



Grand Knight's Report cont'd

Our Faith and Morals Programs are a large part of that effort. Additionally, we are in the process of planning a Spiritual Retreat in early to mid-January. But more importantly – it's what we do now that counts. We should be setting the example for our Community. Our Degree Advancement Preparation Program contributes to this effort as well.

A reminder that the theme for this month is **'The Legacy of Venerable Michael J. McGivney'**. To that end we have several efforts where we intend to spotlight our Founder. The first event was our recent and very successful Corporate Communion and Clergy Appreciation Dinner on August 10th where we honored our Founder and the service of our invited Clergy (Fr. Mike, Fr. Eva, Monsignor Diaz & Deacon Dan. The next 'informal event' is to join together this coming **Wednesday, August 13th to attend the 7:00 pm Mass** together to pray for Venerable Michael J. McGivney's Sainthood. This day falls in between the date of his birth and the date of his passing (*don't forget this Friday, August 15th is the Feast of the Assumption*). Our Council is once again hosting a **First Degree Exemplification on August 16th**. Please try to attend this Degree – especially if you haven't been to one in a while. I cannot begin to tell you how bad the observer attendance has been for these recent degrees. I find attending degrees is a great source of renewal of the lessons of the Principles as handed down to us by our Founder and also an irreplaceable demonstration of fraternity towards our new members. Finally, on **Friday, August 22nd**, don't miss out on our **Installation of Officers Ceremony and our first Family Social of the Fraternal Year**. This year's event is made all that more special in that we will be installing our Charter Squires Circle as well as our New Council Officers. This is a very important ceremony that asks for the participation and prayers of our members and families for our success in the coming year. It will also be a great time to meet and greet your fellow brothers and their families and break some bread together!

Mark your Calendars! Next month is almost entirely of events that call for you and any aged members of your family to come support. Our Theme for next month is **"Honoring those who Protect"** and the key event I ask you to support in that regard is our KofC Council hosted **"Blue**

Mass" on **Wednesday, September 17th**. This is an event that you, your family and friends should plan on attending. We seldom acknowledge the service and sacrifice of our law enforcement and first responders – so this is a day where we can honor them by sharing in the celebration of a special Mass in their honor. An event that precedes the Blue Mass, and also calls for you and invites your family to assist, is our local level **KofC Soccer Challenge** on **Saturday, September 13th**. I absolutely love this event and it has been a great time for all who assist AND those who participate over the past two years. The last event I want highlight is our **Family Pot Luck Social** on **Friday, September 19th**. Those of you who have attended these know how awesome these events truly are. This is a great event to attend if you haven't been to one in awhile.

We have an exciting year ahead; however, we need even a little contribution of time or talent from every Brother Knight to

MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Fraternally,
Julio

Knight of the Month August



Myron Magedanz



Chaplain & Report

Rev Bill Swengros

689-4900

pastor@ststephencatholic.org



Brother Knights,

Hospitality is one of the fundamental Judeo-Christian virtues. Throughout the Old Testament there are wonderful stories of men and women of faith who opened their hearts and homes to strangers in need. Jesus taught us that whenever we care for a person in need, we are caring for him (Mt 25). Over the years, it has been a litmus test of authentic Christian life.

Recently I have been humbled by the hospitality of others. While in New Zealand, I met a woman named Pam who really personified the virtue of hospitality. Pam works at a resort where I was staying and knowing that I was new to the area, offered to take me and my friend on a tour of the town. We saw things a typical tourist would never see. After a full day of sightseeing, she even offered to take us to her home for dinner! The next day, she took us for a walk in a Redwood forest and then for a picnic lunch at a remote lake before dropping us off at the airport. I don't think I could ever repay her for her kindness.

Given the great hospitality I received in New Zealand, you can imagine my shock when I arrived in Australia to fend for myself. When I finally arrived at the school where I was to meet the group, it was locked tight. It took a long time to find the rectory and for a priest to answer the door. When he did, he didn't welcome me into the house. He simply told me not to watch my bags because the area wasn't safe and closed the door. I went to a second rectory and the reception was the same. Mind you, I was even dressed in my clerical blacks! I was flabbergasted!



Thankfully, that night I did find my host family for World Youth Day. They were a lovely family of limited means with three young children. They opened their hearts and home to me and seminarian Jackson Reeves. The children gave up their bedrooms to sleep on the floor so that Jackson and I each could have our own private rooms. The mother woke before dawn to drive us to the bus stop and would stay up long after midnight to make sure we were home safe and, if necessary, to pick us up from the bus stop. They shared what little they had with us. I was humbled by their hospitality.

This experience certainly has given me pause for thought. How hospitable am I? Would I respond like my brother priests or like the women and the young family? Would I open my home to a stranger? Or perhaps less threatening, how welcoming am I to the new face at church or at the Council meeting? Do I hang around familiar friends or do I make a conscious effort to reach out to new people? Am I really known for my hospitality?



These are good questions for all of us. I don't know about you, but I have some work to do.

May they know we are Christians because of our hospitality towards the stranger in our midst.

May God bless you and your loved ones.

Fr. Bill Swengros
Chaplain

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"The gift you have received, give as a gift." (Mt 10:8)
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Membership Report

The Special First Degree Exemplification is Saturday, August 16th!

Please plan on attending this Ceremony in this month of August honoring Father Michael J. McGivney at St Stephen School **Dress Code is Casual** the Ceremony begins at 10 am. Sponsors must have there applicants there by 9:00 a.m. Questions about Admissions should be directed to our Admissions Coordination Team Leader, **Sir Knight Bill Queenan** at Email: admissions@kofc14084.org, Phone: **651-4140**.

Second Degree Exemplification.

Our Council conducts a Second Degree Exemplification bi-monthly at the School on Saturdays; Candidates and sponsors report no later than 9 am. The Ceremony begins at 10 am. **Dress Code is Casual**. Only those Brothers having completed their 2nd Degree Advancement Preparation Requirements, and approved by our Worthy Grand Knight, are eligible for attendance. Sponsors of First Degree Members who have completed requirements for approval as a candidate for Advancement to the Second Degree must contact our Second Degree Coordination Team Leader, **Brother John Kulesa** at Email: john.kulesa@earthlink.net, Phone: **600-5407 (Cell: 380-4653)**, no later than one week before the next scheduled degree to validate completion, coordinate approval and schedule attendance to the next degree. **The next Second Degree Exemplification** is scheduled for **Saturday, September 20th** at **St Stephen School**.

Third Degree Exemplification

is tentatively scheduled for October 11th. Only those Brothers having completed their Third Degree Advancement Preparation requirements, and approved by our Worthy Grand Knight, are eligible for attendance. Second Degree Members who have completed requirements for approval as a candidate for Advancement to the Second Degree must coordinate with their sponsor and contact our Third Degree Coordination Team Leader, **Sir Knight Greg Celestan** at Email: 3rddegree@kofc14084.org, Phone: **655-4007**. **Dress Code is Coat & Tie**.

PLEASE CONTINUE TO WORK ON YOUR ADVANCEMENT REQUIREMENTS!

Being a Knight means being involved and learning about our Order, our Principles, and most importantly... learning to better practice our Faith. I encourage each and every one of you, whether working towards a degree or sponsoring a potential Candidate, to make the effort to grow as a Knight by taking an active part in achieving the requirements to advancement in the Order.

Finally, please continue your efforts to build the Council and the Order by recruiting **quality** Catholic Gentlemen with the energy and spirit to make a difference in our Community.

Fraternally,
Darin
Membership Director

Knight of the Month July



Guillermo Bambach



Raymond James Stadium Concession

2008 Tampa Bay Buccaneers Schedule (Planned Season)

Game to Work	Day/Date	OPPONENT	Depart St Stephen	Stadium Check-In	Stand Open	Kick-Off	Remarks/Status
1	Sun, Aug 17, 2008	New England Patriots	03:00 PM	04:00 PM	06:00 PM	08:00 PM	
2	Sat, Aug 23, 2008*	Jacksonville Jaguars	02:30 PM	03:30 PM	05:30 PM	07:30 PM	*Saturday Game
3	Sun, Sep 14, 2008*	Atlanta Falcons	11:00 AM	12:00 PM	02:05 PM	04:05 PM	*Non-Standard Time
4	Sun, Sep 28, 2008	Green Bay Packers	08:00 AM	09:00 AM	11:00 AM	01:00 PM	
5	Sun, Oct 12, 2008	Carolina Panthers	08:00 AM	09:00 AM	11:00 AM	01:00 PM	
6	Sun, Oct 19, 2008*	Seattle Seahawks	03:15 PM	04:15 PM	06:15 PM	08:15 PM	*Non-Standard Time
7	Sun, Nov 16, 2008	Minnesota Vikings	08:00 AM	09:00 AM	11:00 AM	01:00 PM	
8	Sun, Nov 28, 2008	New Orleans Saints	08:00 AM	09:00 AM	11:00 AM	01:00 PM	
9	Sun, Dec 21, 2008*	San Diego Chargers	11:00 AM	12:00 PM	02:05 PM	08:15 PM	*Non-Standard Time
10	Sun, Dec 28, 2008	Oakland Raiders	08:00 AM	09:00 AM	11:00 AM	01:00 PM	
ADDITIONAL / EXTENDED SEASON GAMES (TBD)							
	TBA	Wild Card Playoff					
	TBA	Divisional Playoff					
SUPERBOWL XVI							
	Sun, Feb 1, 2009	TBD				06:00 PM	

LEGEND

□ = Pre-Season Game

□ = Regular Season Game

□ = Extended Season Game (Playoffs)

■ = Special Game

T = Next Game

T* = (Please Note) Non-Standard Date or Time

First game is this Sunday night and the next one is a week from Saturday. We need a lot of help for the season. If you haven't already done so, please go on line to take the test and sign up for a couple of games during the season. If you have any questions, contact El Jefe, Julio

Fraternal Agent & Report

Good News. The new Fraternal Year is off to a Great Start. The Council has celebrated the accolades of completing last year strong and the Installation and Training of new officers is over or in process.

The State has graciously agreed that for the 2008-2009 Columbian Year, every member is entitled to earn the *Knight in Shining Armor Award*. For members longer than one year, all you need do is:

- Attend 3 Business meetings
- Participate in 3 Council Activities
- Attend a 1st, 2nd and 3rd Degree
- Meet with the Fraternal Agent
- Sponsor two new members

Why not commit to yourself and to your new Grand Knight that you will earn this award this year? Is it hard to sponsor two new men? Re-

member that one of the members in the District has sponsored 100 men in 7 years by himself.

Call T4 (813-857-7345) or T3 (813-625-2444) to meet and discuss how you can earn this award..

*If it's to be
It's up to me
If it's up to me
It will be.*

TEMPUS FUGIT MEMENTO MORI

In the past month, three members in the District have been moved into assisted living, two family members have died prematurely. Many Brothers and their families are struggling. Please keep our brothers and their families in your prayers, even if you do not know their names.



The Assembly is gearing up for a membership drive to recruit 40 new Fourth Degree members for the November Exemplification in Orlando. If you are a Third Degree member in good standing, please consider taking the Patriotic Degree and joining us! (And, in case some of you are concerned, you do not have to join the Color Corps after becoming a Fourth Degree member—though we certainly hope you do!) If interested, contact Jerry Westbrook, the Assembly's Faithful Pilot and Membership Director, at jerrywestbrock@tampabay.rr.com.

Upcoming Color Corps Events:

Aug 24 8:30 AM Mother Seton Council Corporate Communion

Assembly Meeting Schedule:

Sep 12 St Clement

Oct 10 Nativity

Nov 14 St Stephen



Family Pot-luck socials are at 6:30 PM, with the meeting following at 7:30 PM.

Rick Hughes

Faithful Captain

Keep in Your Prayers

John Joyce and Marty Bergen who continue to struggle with serious medical issues.

Brother Dave Carter (Financial Secretary at Mother Seton Council 6724 at Nativity). Dave has been diagnosed with prostate cancer and will be having surgery to remove it on August 27th.



Church Committee Activities

Corporate Communion on August 10th



To celebrate Father McGivney's birthday, the Knights, with the support of Father Bill, had a Corporate Communion Mass on Sunday, August 10 during the 11:30 mass. Father Bob Young was the Priest at our mass. In addition to the Color Corp, several family members and Knights also participated in the mass by serving as Eucharistic Ministers, Lectors, and the giver of the gifts.

Our Chalice Program is complete through September, but we need to request non-Knights to participate in the Program so that all families have the opportunity to experience this gift. We are asking that each Knight to ask just one friend to take the Chalice. This will help to get the word out on a personal level.

Vivat Jesus!

Matthew Preszler rampres@VERIZON.NET



Council Activities

Knights of Columbus Day at Tropicana Field



Rays won 6-5 in 10 innings!





Family Activities

Clergy Appreciation Lunch





Community Activities

"The Gospel of Life" is a reminder that the call to cherish and support life from conception to natural death comes from the Gospel of Jesus Christ itself. We should make it a habit to pray daily for the lives of the unborn. Here is a very short and easy to remember prayer by Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen:

Jesus, Mary, Joseph,
I love you very much.
I beg you to spare the life
of the unborn child
that I have spiritually adopted,
who is in danger of abortion. Amen

Blue Mass:

Is scheduled for September 17, 2008. Knights are encouraged to honor police, fire, law enforcement and emergency medical personnel by attending the Blue Masses in their communities.

Military:

Serving Those Who Served: Since the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) appointed the Knights of Columbus to its Veterans Affairs Voluntary Service Program (VAVS) in 2002, Knights have started volunteering in approximately 98 percent of all VA medical facilities throughout the U.S. The Order's quick response to providing a large number of volunteers was publicly recognized at a recent VA executive meeting. Officials described the Order's efforts as being nearly unmatched by any of the other 350 organizations participating in the VAVS program. James A Haley Veterans Hospital, Nursing Home, Fisher House and Haley House. Our first visit is scheduled for August 20, 2008.

Knights in Action: There are more than 370,000 Catholics in the U.S. Armed Forces, and another 200,000 in the National Guard and Reserves. There are 29,000 Catholic patients in military and VA hospitals. Organizing councils to serve them and working with the Military Archdiocese to ensure that they have access to Catholic ministry is a high priority for the Knights of Columbus. At pre-

sent, we have 49 military councils. This year, we have established five new councils: two in the U.S. and three overseas.

A total of thirty Knights and two former Squires have lost their lives in Iraq and Afghanistan since the war on terrorism began. We honor their courage, we mourn their loss, and we extend our sympathy and prayers to their families. We pray for the day when armed conflict will give way to a world in which we can live together in peace and in justice.

A Special THANKS

To all of you that supported and participated in the



BBQ on July 20, 2008 and in the Bell Shoals cleanup on July 26, 2008.

We are looking for Volunteers to help chair a committee

- Road Clean UP
- Special Olympics
- Pro – Life
- Military

God Bless
Herbert Swoope
Community Director